



Florida House of Representatives
Representative Mark S. Pafford
Deputy Minority Whip
District 88

□ **DISTRICT OFFICE:**

2240 Palm Beach Lakes
Blvd., Suite 102
West Palm Beach, FL
33409-3403
Phone: (561) 682-0156
Fax: (561) 682-0158

□ **CAPITOL OFFICE:**

1402 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL
32399-1300
Phone: (850) 488-0175

COMMITTEES:

Health & Human Services
Committee

Health Care Appropriations
Subcommittee
RANKING MEMBER

Health & Human Services
Quality Subcommittee

Community & Military
Affairs Subcommittee

House Democratic Policy
Committee

STAFF:

Melissa P. Williams
Legislative Aide

Erin Lewandowski
District Aide

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 2, 2011

CONTACT:

Melissa P. Williams
561-682-0156

**REPRESENTATIVE MARK PAFFORD PROPOSES TOUGH NEW
PENALTIES TO PROTECT CHILDREN**

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla.---Today, State Representative Mark Pafford (D-West Palm Beach) filed House Bill 595, entitled Sexual Performance by a Child, to create penalties for individuals who intentionally view child pornography.

Current Florida law does not adequately punish criminal conduct committed by individuals who view child pornography but do not download the actual photos or video. The current laws were enacted prior to the popularity of personal computers and easy access to the internet, and they need to be revised in order to protect children in today's society. House Bill 595 would make it a 3rd degree felony to control or intentionally view child pornography.

"As predators adapt to new technology, our laws must keep up," said Representative Pafford. "This common-sense bill provides one more way to capture and punish those who prey on our children."

Representative Pafford is working in conjunction with the Palm Beach County State Attorney Michael McAuliffe. The senate sponsor is Senator Lizbeth Benacquisto (R-Wellington).

###